



GANDHI'S VIEWS ON EDUCATION THROUGH MOTHER-TONGUE

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ABSTRACT

Education is an important part of our Life. Everyone must get the education. The education is the product of the society. Education helps to develop ourselves like Socially, Economically, Religion, Spiritually etc. Education also helps a person that how to think. It builds up our character. Education is not only concern with the literacy but also with the complete development of our Life. It realizes that what is right or what is wrong. Mother-Tongue is known from our childhood. It helps a child to know parents, relatives, friends and surround around us. It is a language to help us to understand other languages. The Child gets the first education from home. The home is the first school for the child. It helps to build the character of everyone who belongs to poor, rich or middle-class family. We must give the education first in our Mother-Tongue. It helps to understand the concepts with depth, easily and clearly. However now a day's some of the people want to get an education in the international language like English. In spite of Lack of money, some parents want to get the education in English. They tell that 'today's world demands it and they are telling that our child is going to weak than the other students because of Lack of the knowledge of English Language. Now the person who got the education in Mother-Tongue up to Class 12th wants to take his/her higher study in English. The researcher felt that there must be done by her to save the value of our Mother-Tongue and wants to show the society that what is the important of education in Mother-Tongue with the help of Gandhiji's views about it.

KEYWORDS: Education, the Aim of Education, Mother-Tongue, Curriculum.

1. Introduction

Education is a process of Complete Human Development like Spiritual, Economic, Social, Religion etc. Mother tongue is life-giving milk. The foreign language has made our children practically foreigners in their mother land. It is greatest tragedy for us. It gives us an introduction to Western thought and culture. The presented paper carries out the comprehensive treatment of the views of our father of nation Mahatma Gandhi about education by Mother Tongue included About Gandhi, the aim of the Education, and Gandhi's views about Education in Mother Tongue.

2. Gandhi

Gandhi was not only the freedom fighter but also he was the ideal human being because he lived his life simply. According to him the main aim of the education is to build the character of the Human. He also taught to live life very simple with cleanness, purely to his family. He believed that the children must be learned first by the Images. He believed in three "H" for education like Head, Hands, and Heart. with the help of three H we can achieve the good education. The child must be taught by the activities. According to him, Mother-Tongue is the best way for giving the education. Through Gandhi can not be accepted as a specialist in the theory of education in a conventional sense of the word, yet the views on education that he has declared, experimented with and implemented with and enforced in practice, undoubtedly mark him out as a born educationist and a teacher of inclusive outlook on life and its problems has given him a truer perception of what real education should be than most of the so-called educationists whose ideas of education are generally of the narrow, conformist type.

3. Education

What is the importance of education? It simply means knowledge of letters. Education means the act of training. It may be well used or abused. According to Gandhi "By education I mean an all round drawing out of the best in child and man-body, mind and spirit." In order to build up the character of the students and impart to them true education. He felt that there is a great need in our country for creating suitable atmosphere for "productive work" which should form an important part of our education. According to him True Education of the intellect can only come through a proper exercise and training of the bodily organs, e.g. hands, feet, eyes, ears, nose, etc." This, he believes, makes for the quickest progress of the child's intellect.

4. The Aim of Education

The aim of Education does not know the letters, reading and writing. But the aim of education is Self-Development. With the help of Self-Development we can earn money for our living. The main aim of the education is how we can solve our problems. It helps not only earn the money but also to build our character which decides what is right or wrong. It also helps to show the difference between good and evil.

5. Gandhi's views on Education through Mother-Tongue

Everyone has a Mother-Tongue. We should proud for our Mother-Tongue. With the help of Mother-Tongue we maintain our values, culture. There is no any objection about the National and the International Language. But the person who

knows mother-tongue very well, he/she can understand the national and the international language. The knowledge of International Language is not bad, but it helps only to understand international and commercial relations. Mother-Tongue helps to describe our thoughts, to understand the things and also helps for their application in our life. According to Gandhi Education must be imparted through the mother-tongue. The persons, who have got their education through the foreign medium, have damaged their intellectual energy. It has ruined our power of imagination, create and invent. When we get education through our personal language, our relations with people at home will take on a different character. We receive education through our mother-tongue, we may well transmit all that we learn at the school to our parents, relatives, friends, labours, barbers, sweepers and others and also educate them. All education should be imparted through the mother-tongue. English should be taught only as one of several languages. As Hindi is the national language, English is to be used in dealing with other nations and international commerce. According to him the mother-tongue is the first language for the child. The child's social communication is very easy and successful by mother-tongue. The mother-tongue should be the first priority in curriculum for the basic education. It helps realization of ultimate reality, knowledge of God and self-realization. The children who are studying by the foreign language, they feel stress and their knowledge is not practically and also marks oriented. The foreign medium made the children crammers and imitators. The pupils are handicapped for their original work and thought. They fail for applying their learning for the masses. The international language makes our children really foreigners in our mother land. It is the big tragedy for us. The foreign medium has prevented the growth of our vernaculars. Mother-Tongue gives an introduction to democracy thought and culture while the International Language gives an introduction to western thought and culture. The highest growth of the Indian must be possible without knowledge of English. The young boys and girls think that the best society is impossible with our mother-tongue. We feel shame if we don't know the foreign language like English. The some boys also believe that the girls should be completed her study in English for marriage and for achieve credit in the society. Gandhi said that "I am hoping that this University will see to it that the youths who come to it will receive their instruction through the medium of their vernaculars. Our language is the reflection of ourselves, and if you tell me that our languages are too poor to express the best thought, then I say that the sooner we are wiped out of existence the better for us. Is there a man who dreams that English can ever become the national language of India? (Cries of "Never".) Why this handicap on the nation? Just consider for one moment what an unequal race our lads have to run with every English lad. I had the privilege of a close conversation with some Poona professors. They assured me that every Indian youth, because he reached his knowledge through the English language, lost at least six precious years of life. Multiply that by the number of students turned out by our schools and colleges and find out for you how many thousand years has been lost to the nation. The charge against us is that we have no initiative. How can we have any if we are to devote the precious years of our life to the mastery of a foreign tongue? We fail in this attempt also... I have heard it said that after all it is English-educated India which is leading and which is doing everything for the nation. It would be monstrous if it were otherwise. The only education we receive is English education. Surely we must show something for it. But suppose that we had been receiving during the past fifty year's education through

our vernaculars, what should we have today? We should have today a free India, we should have our educated men, not as if they were foreigners in their own land, but speaking to the heart of the nation; they would be working amongst the poorest of the poor, and whatever they would have gained during the past fifty years would be a heritage for the nation (Applause). Today even our wives are not sharers in our best thought. Look at Professor Bose and Professor Ray and their brilliant researches. Is it not a shame that their researches are not the common property of the masses?"-(Speeches and Writings of Mahatma Gandhi, p.p. 318-20; 4-2-1916).he also said that "I must cling to my mother tongue as to my mother's breast, in spite of its shortcomings. It alone can give me the life-giving milk".-(Harijan, 25-8-46).he believed that the technical education and Higher Education should be in mother-tongue only.

• Place for Languages in Curriculum

It is now my opinion that in all Indian curriculum of higher education there should be a place for Hindi, Sanskrit, Persian, Arabic and English, besides of course the vernacular. This big list need not frighten anyone. If our education were more systematic, and the boys free from the burden of having to learn their subjects through a foreign medium, I am sure learning all these languages would not be an irksome task, but a perfect pleasure. A scientific knowledge of one language makes knowledge of other languages comparatively easy. (Autobiography p. 30)

6. Conclusion

Researcher faces the problems while she wants to do Ph.D. in English. Because her whole study is in Gujarati Medium up to M.Phil. If we want to speak, read, write the foreign language, we must learn its grammar, vocabulary. However we can't learn our MotherTongue very well. How can we justify the other language? The Foreign Language creates the generation gap and kills our culture, values etc. The researcher also agrees with the Gandhi's thought about Mother-Tongue. Gandhi told that if I spent my five years in Education by Mother-Tongue after High School, I could surely learn easily Hard Subjects with the clarity of the concept. The research also feels that we can gain the Knowledge, Understanding and Application the knowledge in our practical life easily with the help of our mother-tongue. Present time, Parents want to admit their children (especially boys) in English Medium schools from the childhood. They are wasting their time, money behind it.

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